

1
2 **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**
3

4 A method of determining a path through a network. Structures in a network are
5 grouped into structure groups, each structure group comprising at least two nodes. Virtual
6 circuit information for every pair of nodes in the structure groups is determined, and
7 connections between the structure groups is determined. A least cost path is determined from
8 a first node to a second node using the virtual circuit information and connection information.

9
10